

Hi - We're trying an auto transcript of the finished episode - and then editing - this below is the auto transcript - and while it's close, it's not perfect - Dr J

22:23:48

Okay, does. I edit the episode? Not for content, but for like coughs and splutters and things like that.

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So hopefully, if you're okay With that, I've completely trust you.

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My goodness, which I may live to regret

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the and the

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Hello! And welcome once again, to It is complicated. The podcast where we answer every single question with it is complicated, included the title of this podcast which is it is complicated.

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Hello! Dr. J. And Hello! Are very, very special guests. K: Points.

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Team. Welcome to the show. Hello! Happy to be here, Very happy to be here.

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We go way back. Don't wait. Yes, we do go way back. My God!

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When was it? Let me trans fabulous? That's right.

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I was there, I performed too. Oh, my God! I was the one who got naked and screamed at people, and threw the boots with steel shanks and them at the audience without realizing how dangerous that was because i'm an idiot the image is burned into my brain my

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memory is really fucked up, but that

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So you got a haircut since then. So for the for the list, I remain on the trans fabulous was a series of events, but also festivals that ran in London in the I want to say early 2 thousands it was 2,005 2,006 and 2,007 it was wonderful

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what happened was I was performing at the time, dear listener, I do that less these days, but I was also speaking and doing the academic thing which I've been doing more these days and I was doing both of those at the trans fabulous festival and it was quite a line up that year I was also.

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Encouraged to book a series of performance which we became a show called The General Queer Playhouse, which Jay was involved with a number of other performers, and we ended up touring that eventually which was very exciting But this particular event was the first time we were doing it and it was just a sort of

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what a perfect storm of fabulous people were meeting At the same time.

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Kate was invited, Jameson Green was invited I mean Jack Calberston.

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Was there a few other notable, fabulous people? And I was asked to do the academic e-talkie thing alongside these illustrious names.

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Now I was a very young, queer academic at the time, more used to telling jokes on stage, and I was tremendously nervous meeting Uk.

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Because what did happened was, I had read your books Pre, coming out in a corner in the library at the the elustrous London School of Economics, known for its gender studies in the library reading your books, going like oh, and so you were one of the first people that helped me come out through your literature.

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And then there I was, sitting on the dais with you, and I believe, Jameson.

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We were next to each other, and you were speaking, and we had like an hour and a half, or something, and and both you and Jamison spoke wonderfully.

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But of course, partly because you traveled all this way, but also because you're very, very good speakers.

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The time was getting short, and I had prepared this talk, and I had this, you know, I was going to do a tiny bit of a performance piece with it which is about the gender identity wars, you know, the sort of like this bush and what is dragging what is femme, and what is transfer

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and my performance piece was to do it as a very, very loud British general.

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You know, breaking up the country, drawing lines and stuff like, you know the Brits do love to do.

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And it came to the end. And I think we had about 10 min left and I was like, well, okay, I'm just gonna do that bit without context.

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I jumped up with this. I think, British. I'll be Jack Hey, Alright! Here we go.

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That's Jennifer's up for the slide.

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10 min of like right right here. The fancy of the butchers is so, and then finished.

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It was so good. And I remember, Kate, you were very, very kind to me off to that, and we struck up a friendship from that basis, and honestly, I can't think of a better way to make a connection with another, human being So it's delightful to meet you, again, Kate, and I have been

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able to speak, very irregularly whenever we're in the same place.

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That's really lovely to be able to do this digitally over the airwaves.

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So. Yes, we skipped over the bit where we introduce ourselves. Dr.

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J. Do you want to very briefly tell us who you are, So hey?

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I'm Dr. Jay. I come essentially from the self-defining future.

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I work at a place called Footworks, where I get to write my own job title.

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So I gave myself the job. Total harbinger of change, because we can.

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Why not be fabulous? And I also, thanks to the New Zealand Government, got to give myself my own gender, so I'm transgressive, non-binary, gender, Queer as my official gender which is on a Saturday declaration Wow!

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Say it again, slowly a transgressive, nonbinary gender.

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Queer is my official gender that I have been living since about 2,007 or 8, so I don't think when I performed at trans fabulous, I'd actually recognized my gender and my name at the time I was just as little Incoa.

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Rage, that kind of performed on stage. What else, My, I'm a troublemaker and a hashtag Queer nuisance because of now been to like 2 entire queer lectures, but the first one that I went to was by Sarah Ahmed was about quoting so that's what I've taken

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on. That's me, Josephine. Shall I throw it back to you?

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And then we throw it to Kate. Hi! My name is Josephine Beard.

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I'm an academic and artist. I used to be known more for treading the boards, if you will, as a queer performer, I haven't done that so much, recently but with fingers crossed I may be doing it again soon as it's between you so news of that coming up but in

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the meantime, I am a lecturer of the University of Salzburg, in the game design Department, where I teach about game design, and I also happen to be a Phd. Student.

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Again the University of Vienna, Austria, and maybe this time it'll stick.

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I'm writing about trans people playing games, and why playing games is a really cool thing to do for queer folk.

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I also like to think of myself as a femme of international mystery.

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So there you go, Kate. I imagine, to those people listening You need introduction.

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Would you like to introduce yourself? But I can do it if you don't want to do it, you could do it while I fix this thing in my year.

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Got new headphones, and so I may be doing that.

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During this talk. But go ahead, I'll try my best.

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You've been a stage performer. You have been a film and TV actor.

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The last time I saw you on TV was in the blacklist to James Victor, which I'm really curious to ask you about later on, and also for your excellent excellent writing.

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As I said just now, in the introduction, one of the ways that I learned about Kate was through your books My one to say was gender outlaw was the first that I read, and then for many many years you've produced texts that have been really similar to the communities that i've definitely been involved

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with one of my favorites being Hello, cruel World. Which is a book for alternatives to self-form and suicide for anybody who happens to be different.

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Which is something that we like to talk about here being different, and all the things that that might cause most recently.

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I know you had a memoir that came out, and a second or third edition of Gender Outlaw, and I know you can continue.

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To write and speak, and perform, and generally do all those things.

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Did I get everything? Yep, I believe you did wait. Wait!

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There was a novel that I wrote with my PAL, Caitlin, Sullivan.

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Yes, I did. It was all nearly roadkill. That's right way way way back.

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When I remember 1996, or 7, something like that welcome Kate.

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It's such a delight to have you here. Every there's joy.

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Oh, it's a hard join Honestly, it's such a pleasure every time we talk and I'm really thrilled that we can record this one.

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Usually it's not recorded. Usually it's in some corner at a conference where we're just chatting away about whatever So we were talking just before we started doing this there about what kind of topic we'd like to talk about every episode here at this is complicated we usually pick a topic and

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loosely chat around that, or if Jay's involved pick a topic and then end up talking about something completely different which, is very possible might happen today.

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My thoughts were to talk a little bit, or at least start talking a little bit about the concept of hope, and in the response to at the time, of recording some utterly awful world events that have really rocked our well, everybody and it has been very difficult for me personally to feel hopeful to feel positive to

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feel good in that environment. But one of the things that I know from Kate.

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Your work is that you've always to me, anyway, expressed hope and possibility in the face of the most difficult circumstances.

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One of the things that you've done that I really enjoyed as you produce a card that you give out to people which, if I'm describing it correctly, basically it is a card that you can take with you upon your death, and if you as a queer person go to hell because for some reason, that

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actually exists, and so happens that you go and you go because you happen to be queer.

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Kate has offered to do your time for you, and you can present this card to whatever demon you may be meeting.

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And this card is a get out of hell free card. And honestly, I thought it was one of those beautiful, fabulous responses to the kind of persecution that we can sometimes have like really affect people badly, so I wonder if you could talk a little bit Okay, what your thoughts are about things like that being

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hopeful in the times of things like this. But the's going on right now.

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When you first said we're gonna be talking about hope.

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I don't think I directly speak to Hope I'd like to eradicate Fear and hope and fear are 2 sides of the same coin, and don't want to live in fear and the fear that I could Eradicate was the fear of going to hell, so that's handled if you go to hell

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for something that doesn't mean I will do your time for you, and we're gonna work it out so that there's going to be a downloadable copy of that card for Everybody you. Keep it.

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On your phone. It'll work just as well. But it wasn't my intention to still hoped it was my intention to remove fear and both.

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Fear and hope are living in a time that isn't current.

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I mean, I do say yeah, things like my darlings.

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Love always fucking wins, of course, and that's a hopeful statement, but it's made right now, and it takes into account right now, right now.

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It's really fucked up. I live in this United States, and my country has just outlawed abortion, and the whole trans movement began with women demanding their gender rights.

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And that just kept giving courage to people that gave courage to gaze and lesbians courage to bisexuals, and finally courage to us.

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To come out and say we want our gender rights. And now it's kind of the basis of our movement has been rocked in my country, and in terms of hope

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A lot of people don't have that, and it's hard to live with the reality that hope is as empty as fear.

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So now, what do you do If you can't have Oh, what do you do?

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You live in the present, you go. Okay, no matter what happens, no matter where I am.

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I know my gender done now. Gender expression, That's another question that might be limited in some places, and by some reasons.

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But that doesn't affect who you are, and the joy you have for being that gender That's where I'm going.

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More of be the gender you are, and it'll erase the back stuff.

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It's as always complicated. And yeah, it's interesting.

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But yeah, that's why we called to show this. I really hear what you're saying.

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I guess maybe the reason I wanted to talk about this was because I was feeling hopeless.

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Honestly in the face of the as the news from the United States.

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The news from the Uk. Right now, Jane, I often speak about this off the air, so to speak.

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We find ourselves in a place where we're like, Okay, what do we do with this feeling?

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What do we do with this emotion? What do we do with this sadness, this anger, this rage, these things that yes, they can be put into something useful.

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Yes, they can be turned into something. But how sometimes the how isn't there?

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And I think the best we've come up with weirdly enough is producing things, creating.

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That's how we started doing this. I was in a very, very different moment, like I said, before we started, I started this podcast with J.

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Partly because I was unemployed during Covid and I was unemployed in a way that was particularly nasty.

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I'd been excluded from things because of who I was for expressing my gender the way I was, and we said, what should we do in the face.

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Of this feeling, and we created this amongst other things, and one of the things that we did with the show in trans fabulous was the same thing we were dealing with horrible circumstances all of us, and we decided to make something now it happened.

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To be funny, because Jay and I in an okay yourself.

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We often deal with these kind of feelings with cure, and part of that is because if we were in love for you to be crying, part of that, I think genuinely because this is the only way to translate something that is untranslatable like how do you even talk about a feeling

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like that. You can't get to express your gender, and you don't even have a world where you could figure out what it is.

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Your gender is so. I like the idea of reducing fear.

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Part of the problem when it comes to gender. Being oppressed to the point where we can't express it without danger.

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You can't safely express our genders. That's how I grew up in the 1950 S.

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there were no words. There was no space except back streets or behind locked doors, and even then we had no words.

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But I think now, now that we've gotten to a point where we go yay, we can express our genders.

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I think the danger to ourselves comes in equating what we believe our gender to be with who we really are.

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We say something like my authentic self, when we're talking about our gender.

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I believe that it's more helpful to view our genders as more of a graphic user, interface And that's how I can get around in the world this is how I can make people deal with me in a certain way, because my graphic user.

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Interface. And that way, when I am attacked for my gender, it's not an attack on me.

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It's an attack on what I'm wearing, not not literally closed, but yeah sort of.

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And that has given me courage, and I think courage in the face of getting is what we need to find for ourselves.

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One of the things that gives me major hope at the moment is seeing and I'm going to sound so fucking old seeing the youth of today, on Tiktok, and in these spaces where they find ways of expressing who they are and expressing themselves, realizing that trans fabulous was nearly 20 years ago.

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now, but it's what I think of and conceive of as only being a couple of years ago is actually long enough ago that some of my colleagues from work, when I talk about something happening in 2,000, and 5 they were only 4 or 5 when it came out realizing that these kids have

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grown up with the freedom of expression of their gender.

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With this freedom of being able to be authentically, playfully themselves, to have the bright hair watching people take on oppression with No you're not gonna do that from the youth.

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It just feels so hopeful. I was just watching a video of the cast of heart stoppers.

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For barely 20. If they are day. The wearing their progressive pride flags as capes, like superheroes running around, pride singing Whitney Houston To the Christian right as they're protesting them, this is gleefully being queer this is

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gleefully, being that queer nuisance.

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This is being joyous in your protest, and protesting, almost flipping around from a very dowa earnest thing, enter something much more joyful and much more creative at the moment.

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And use social media to get to the people who can't express their gender, have their concept of their gender, but can't do it outside of their house.

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We're going to give them a space to do it inside their house and share it with others, and see themselves reflected back, because that is the most amazing hopeful thing that you can do is to see something like yourself, to see something that looks and sounds and thinks like you talking to you going yeah, You're not

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alone, growing up alone in that conservative space We can't be anything other than system, straight and constructions.

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And then growing into a wider world, and seeing that there's other possibilities out there, and finding the chance to play at that space.

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That is what gives me hope. And I think, just making space for people to do.

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That stuff is so important and so huge, and reflecting it back.

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That's where hope comes from from me. That's terrific.

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This concepts that go around each other the notion of courage, fear whether that that leads to hope or not.

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I remember back to that time when we met I was living in the moment, very much, because that's what I could do is anything I could do very poor in London and queer and very visibly queer, as well, and it's just like Well, what else can you do but live right now the community.

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That you're in right now. And help, the people that around you right now there is something that creates courage from that, and it is about expressing yourself and then feeling that reflected back to hearing our stories being expressed, and seeing that reflected back, gives courage in a way that I don't think we're

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really aware of. I remember, Okay, you had an impact on me without even being there.

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I was this kid in the library, reading your book, and then soon I found myself on stage giving my own stories and someone would come up to me afterwards and say, Oh, my God, I saw

you perform 5 years ago and it had an impact and it's like my God it's the most humbling experience i've

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ever had, and realizing that expression just in and of itself can give courage to others, can make space for others, can have an impact in a way that we might not even expect right now, even if we feel incredibly powerless and good news.

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I really do right now. I feel utterly powerless in the face of really really heavy, heavy things, but to have a voice, and to express that voice, and to carry on expressing I think can really have an impact and I love your notion of gender expression being this I don't know almost palate I guess that you bring out and go okay, i'm

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gonna express it this way. And I'm gonna express it that way as an academic right now.

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I've been struggling with this notion of authentic gender.

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I've been challenged. Recently. I was writing A, you know, one of these stroke beard articles about gender, and I wrote in it that oh, you know you can express gender through games because one of the virtual spaces is so exciting is you can go in there and there's less danger

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of a physical attack but you can be in a virtual space and express whatever you want.

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You can express authentically, and I had made the mistake of referencing Butler and a few other people about perform activities of gender, and the response I got was like well If gender is affected by society, how on earth could it ever.

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Be authentic, and I could just see the person who'd written that smirking.

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And you know, being very, very happy about themselves and I thought, well, it's not about that.

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It's about the moment of expression. That's authentic.

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Like you're authentic in the moment, and then the next moment you're authentic, too, even if the expression has shifted radically from moment to moment and that's what gender

performance is you can perform yourself doesn't mean you have to perform something else and so I really really love that

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because it's both an expression of something that is true, but it can also be a fabulous shield mask.

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I don't know. Spotlight does that interpret it correctly? Kate?

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Is, that it's as you say, it's complicated.

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The notion of authenticity. I think it's a bit of a trap.

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You're already authentic, no matter what you do, you are your authentic self gender.

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On the other hand, is something you're creating and and it's as authentic as you want.

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It did be, as you said it's more of a matter of moment to moment I would disagree that you're always your authentic self at work.

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I'm having to go into board rooms. I Yes, I look like this, and I walk into portraits.

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I've got my here currently in a punky mullet skater boy style, and a pink t-shirt that says Protect trans youth.

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Of course I would walk into a wardroom just like this, but a jacket on, of course, because you know respect.

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But one of the things that I've struggled with is walking into those boardrooms, because there's always been a thing of like a not being enough in some ways, not being quite okay with.

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Being in those spaces, It's very, very high to walk into those spaces and be authentically queer, and be authentically yourself.

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And that was a ginormous sleep. When I finally took it.

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But it is an incredibly hard step. There's a step that a lot of people do when they're in work, and things like that where they're masking their authentic.

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Self they're taking. Their authentic self whether it's queer neuronormative neurodiverse whatever, and putting on as much of a mask to look as normative as possible and they're having to almost perform normativity to remain employed so their authentic self is not able

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to be part of that conversation. Their authentic alphas, having to be layered and squashed so hard.

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That's the lens that I would say. I don't think you can always be your authentic self, and I don't think when you say you always are your authentic. Self.

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I don't think for a lot of people that's a reality of day-to-day going to work Your authentic self is almost something that you can strip down to when you get home that you have to put jackets on to go to work of course you're right on the other hand

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if we want to look at the idea of that, your authentic self includes and is dependent on, authentic gender expression, then you're right.

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But we make the decision that yeah, we are Selves are dependent upon our expression, and how our expression is received, and how our expression top of norms, if we know ourselves to be queer, and we enter a space where it endangers us to completely express ourselves as queer it's kind of

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nutty to think that we should expect ourselves fully in that fashion.

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Instead we pulled back. It's kind of like, okay, you're calling the shots for this game.

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I'm gonna pull back. I'm still me, and wherever I can, I'm gonna push.

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But look at my hair, and if you get away with your hair, then great, get away with the piercing, and you chin great, so you can't have all of it.

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Alright, you make the decision that all of it would endanger you.

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So you don't do it. It's just a matter of understanding that we are the ones making the decision.

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Not that they are the ones that are directing us? Or does that make sort of sense makes sense to me?

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Cause I understand what Jay is saying. I really think I understand what you're saying, in the sense that the problem with the notion of authenticity is, it creates a binary of you being authentic?

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Or you're not. And then, when you're not, that that can be so.

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Soul, destroying the You can't even imagine the possibility of ever being fully authentic, because the truth is even myself, and I think of myself as a very out queer person, have constraints on when I can express that now and if I have those constraints does that mean i'm never able

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to be authentic, even if I can do it in the tiniest, tiniest way.

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What you're saying, Kate, I think, is that you are always authentic.

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It's just about what you're able to express on when it's this notion of transition to me as well.

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You know somebody says to me like, Oh, when you transitioned, and I'm like well, I'm kind of always in transition, not because I've gender chat at that part I've done.

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But every day is a different. I I'm when am I finished.

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What am I done? I ever gonna be done. And if I if I'm never done, does that mean I'm never authentic, and so I appreciate you what you're saying absolutely, because I'm in many of those circumstances where I don't feel like I can express myself dated day, or in all

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kinds of circumstances. Kate was that sort of roughly, where you're heading. That's kind of where I'm thinking, now, I understand, and it makes sense It's kind of one of those very difficult point where you're so constricted you're trying to find your way.

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Through I've now reached the point where it's almost like I walk in like this as a defense against tried to look more normative, the more normative I tried to look, and be the worse it becomes because everyone looks for the chinks in the Armor If I walk in and go Yeah, I'm

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different that actually projects a very, very different energy and emotion and things in the room.

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When we're able to not have to censor ourselves, and Maybe it's the censorship, not the authenticity.

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It's the having to find ways around and under and over some of the censorship that you've face in those spaces.

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And there's always that. Notion when you're doing that somebody rates coming off you that you're working to had in the situation you're working to hide something and that makes them look doubly hard.

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There's identity, and that's what you're being.

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Then there's expression, and that's how you put out to others Authenticity has to do with identity that can never be fucked with.

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No, it it just can't. It's kind of why superheroes have secretly identities.

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I knew you were gonna hit Mavoo. I knew we've got to hit a marvel moment at some point, you know, I mean I'd love Miss Marvel has to be Kamala Khan, and that's how she has to live her life until she's needed to do her

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superhero thing, but she doesn't think any less of herself.

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That's what you were saying, Josephine, about You're either fully on authentic or you're not.

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That's the problem You're rather allowed to express a 100% of who you think you are.

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Or you're not okay. Okay. But if I make the decision that this is my secret identity and watch out when I let loose, it's a just a different way of looking at it.

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We started off, talking about hope, and hope is something that we have in our heads.

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Hope means we're feeling good about the future. If we're feeling good about who we are, then we're all fantastic.

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We just are. If we decide that our authenticity has nothing to do with how we're expressing ourselves, cause secret identity and the secret identity means, I can walk in the world, without having to be the superhero I know I am all the time, I just get to pull back a little bit and

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go. That's secret identity, Superman enjoys being Clark Kent doesn't bother him.

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He gets to write stories for the Daily Planet. Oh, my God, I never saw it that way round.

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I always saw it as Superman would be frustrated at being Clark Kent.

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Being forced into this box. Forced into this norm lifestyle, because he can't be superman all the time.

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And that's how I've always framed it.

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I'd never thought of it the other way around. That superman could actually enjoy being Clark Kent, that you could actually enjoy being your secret identity I'm just having a whole rewrite of a whole pile of comics.

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Inside my head. Sorry alright, Batman beats himself up for being Bruce Wayne.

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But come on, I'll come up in 5 min by just funding healthcare and funding homelessness. Let's leave Batman on the side and talk about proper actual rather than Billionaire Playboy Elon Musk Wank fantasies and how do you feel about that man

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right. I might have some feelings here Well, we could talk about the sound minister.

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Oh, yeah, that's great. Yeah, alright. You brought it up.

22:55:18

Send man by Neil Gayman is as close to the most perfect theology that I can kind of lean into And go.

22:55:29

Okay, I'm comfortable with those, as my gods and goddesses to the point where this is my sleeve.

22:55:35

There's Desire. There's delirium, they're they're everywhere a little bit of what you description for the listener.

22:55:43

Kate has an entire sleeve of the little endless.

22:55:48

they're called. These are the characters from the comic Sandman, and when we met we'd done this thing.

22:55:54

Where I screened as a British general on stage, and in the very next conversation I think I saw you with your sleeve exposed, and I was like 10 man.

22:56:03

That was the second point of connection for us. I love this idea of this notion of identity and expression being considered separate, and the sense of authenticity always being inherit in the identity no matter what you're expressing because this notion, of hope is lost, I think when we believe that our expression is

22:56:22

our only possible self that the constricted expression is the only self that we are.

22:56:29

Expression is almost always the method by which we express the identity.

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And so therefore the identity is always the case. It's the what is it?

22:56:39

The the one square inch that George Orwell talks about in 1984, and in V.

22:56:45

For vendetta, talks about it as well. There's a square inch in the mind that no matter what someone does to you, if you can hold one square inch in your head sacred and self and authentically you they can never do anything.

22:56:58

To you, no matter how much they damage you, and I've often thought about that notion that there is a core to who You are.

22:57:05

That is always. True, no matter what happens, and that gives me tremendous hope.

22:57:11

Oh, yes, because then from that, anything else can happen. And yeah, I have my expression curtailed constantly, especially by my own fear of what I might express.

22:57:22

But that doesn't stop me being any less. Me and I like that very, very much, because that takes away a lot of fear for me.

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There's a meme running around at the moment, which is, everyone says that hope is a fragile thing.

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Hope gets yourself off the ground, dust herself off, spits out the blood, and roars back into battle.

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And that's me is just kind of one of those ones.

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That's just been running around. But I just love that notion of hope being something fierce, and there, and not fragile.

22:57:52

But is that thing that drives you back into battle? There's that hope that you'll get through it.

22:57:57

It's not twinned with fear. They're 2 completely separate things.

22:58:01

You can be frightened and hopeful At the same time they came coexist.

22:58:05

Sure, unlike this, we're always breaking down binaries.

22:58:10

Every single vary. Let me break it down. Well. Authentic and authentic.

22:58:14

That's the binary that we can break down that way, too.

22:58:16

But the idea of there being a core identity, just doesn't have to be a binary.

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That's just is when I like that very much. Well, we get to express who we are in the universe that so celebrates us.

22:58:32

And, for example, proudly weekend, or in our neighborhood, where it's a queer neighborhood, or in a bar where it's all queer.

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There we are, we blossom, That's our universe Most of the time.

22:58:49

We have to live in somebody else's universe, But we're growing hours.

22:58:54

So that people are afraid we're gonna take away their universe, and it should be afraid.

22:59:04

Oh, no, You've let the secret out I think they should be afraid, because they have way too much room for the number of people that they are.

22:59:16

Fuck that so you can grow your universe, and you do that every time you meet another query and smile in recognition.

22:59:28

Your universe goes. B. It's there fully. And so we have the multi versus gender, and we can be marvel again.

22:59:39

you just remind that I'm in the process part of my Phd project.

22:59:42

This is why I love doing a Phd. Connected to a particular band of funding, because God knows I haven't got any, But I get to make a game, and my game is called euphoria.

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It's a bar suddenly appears when you're walking on the street, and you just need a space and suddenly there's a door where the door wasn't before, and as you, walk in you go through the door in the portal and then something just falls off you and then suddenly you can just express

23:00:08

yourself, no matter how you want to be and it is a nightclub. The nightclub is called you for it, where you can perform or be.

23:00:16

However, you need to be, and then, when you go out again, you can put back on the cloak and and then head back out into the world, and that's the game.

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And the game inside. There's lots of mechanics and functions that just allow for that.

23:00:26

But it's that universe. And the idea was like creating a pocket universe like, Here is a moment.

23:00:31

Here is a time, Here's a place. I'm one of the things that when I first studied tender studies I found really difficult, with another binary between transgressive and regress The people.

23:00:41

Would say, There are certain acts are always transgressive, and certain extra regressive, and I was like, or certain expressions or identities, and I was like, But that's not true.

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These moments, these tiny little adjustments, the tiny little moments where you can create space where you can create a connection.

23:00:59

That's power. That's our universe. No, something static, like behaving a certain way or being a certain way, or expressing a certain, I think what you've got is queer in a nutshell.

23:01:11

The notion that things are always in motion, and to that degree we're queer opposing us is people who want everything to stay the same and never move, which is impossible.

23:01:24

But they keep trying, and it makes them angrier and angrier to see that there are people who feel that that's not necessary for a good life.

23:01:35

We are those people who feel that's not necessary for a good life, and there are pockets to day where we can go and meet people for like us.

23:01:47

It may be that that has to be on Tiktok for a while, or a chat room, but that's not a forever at Bang.

23:01:58

We're moving toward the future. Yeah, when period we are, my dear, just don't worry about that part.

23:02:09

It's the speed with which we get there. That's sometimes frustrating.

23:02:14

It is frustrated. Part of gender is the fact that it changes, and and once we own that we can ride it, it's like riding a bucking Bronco, though trying to own the motion of our gender and how we're able to express it, now we're unable to express

23:02:40

it. As we pull this back, because all there's mom and we're still a agenda.

23:02:49

Every moment. It's that thing in quantum physics where something can be a particle in a wave.

23:02:57

At the same time. That's gender. We're used to seeing gender As a moment, a moment in time we can define it, We can say this: is what it is it includes these glasses this hair and the way.

23:03:11

You're wearing your vest. Okay, we understand that.

23:03:14

And then the next moment -oh! My whole gender is gone, and you go.

23:03:21

No, no, no, no! But I went off in the wrong direction. No, not at all.

23:03:28

No, I was almost going to spin it backwards slightly when you were talking about.

23:03:32

Those moments when you see someone, and you have that heartsing moment.

23:03:37

I had it just on the tube, coming back, and I met some people going to pride, and then the 3 of us saw I magnificent, gorgeous thang in heels, and a corset and purple leopard prints.

23:03:51

Skin tight with muscles pouring out the top, and all 3 of us were just like, Don't know, Ginda expression.

23:03:57

We have no clue, but we want it. We want it.

23:04:00

We want to love it, and it's the enhancing moment when you see gorgeousness like that, when you see somebody being able to be themselves just out there.

23:04:09

And you're like that makes my heart sing. Obviously their heart is singing because they're walking.

23:04:14

Oh, with a gorgeous moustache, by the way, just the most brilliant little Freddie Mercury mustache on top of everything.

23:04:21

I was just like I could follow you all day long, but the fact that all of our hearts were singing other people were staring but you, could see the people who was making smile and recognition making smile because they, loved seeing somebody like themselves being able to be so wildly expressive and I think that moment that's

23:04:40

their authenticity. That's those connections of our authentic selves.

23:04:45

They smile at each other, and they reflect back to each other, and you end up with that moment of m authentic self, saw the 2 people on the tube and we smiled at each other because we were wearing queer t-shirts We were obviously the queers and we were doing queer things of just

23:04:59

traveling across London, and then we see something that makes us go.

23:05:03

Oh, my God! Today is amazing. Those reflections and those bounces back of your authentic selves.

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I think that's that queer joy, and then hope, when you turn around and you say, Oh, my God, these things connect us, and it's those moments of connection of just looking at somebody and smiling, we've got masks on, But you can tell when somebody's smiling even if they've got a

23:05:23

mask on, and you can feel the grins, and you can feel the happiness that everyone had in that interaction.

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And I think that's where hope sets. I could totally buy that.

23:05:34

Yep, thank you, Miss Jathy. Like you've answered our question.

23:05:39

What is hope? That's what it is. Hope is wearing a purple course with with a pretty regular message.

23:05:52

I think that's fair enough. I don't think I can describe it any other way.

23:05:55

Same with gender. Okay? Well, not everybody wants to be wearing purple leopard print, and Freddie Mercury mustache.

23:06:06

Some people want to express their gender in a way that is considered normal proper.

23:06:15

I just want to get along with people. I'm a woman.

23:06:19

I just want people to see me as a woman period, and to the degree that they do.

23:06:27

I am my authentic self, and to the degree that they don't, and what the other 2 people who I met one of them looked quite conservative until he read the t shirt, which was a they them. Kittens t-shirt but they looked quite normative but there, was that moment of They looked at me

23:06:45

and smiled. I looked at them and smiled. It's that moment when you look at somebody, and there's just that smile.

23:06:51

Of like I see you, I see you, I see your little square of I identity, and I'm smiling at your little square of identity.

23:06:59

I'm smiling at you. I'm not clocking you or making you or anything that's got a negative connotation.

23:07:05

I am seeing you for the wonderful person who you are, and you're lovely, and we're going to smile at each other, and our little things of identity are just going to ping off each other and have a little pattern moment what you just said jay reminded me of an instance when I was

23:07:22

in university for the first time, studying gender and being out as myself, and finding my way through.

23:07:28

That was very complicated. I was wearing make up, and for most purposes, I guess, looking pretty normative, and I remember walking into the Gender Institute that the other savory proper title and one of my fellow Academics said to me Oh, Josephine.

23:07:43

Why, do you feel the need to wear lipstick?

23:07:44

I mean, that's very normative. You could just not wear lipstick, and I was like, and she said, and and and why are you shaving, you know, like you don't have to shave?

23:07:53

That that's that's also really super normative.

23:07:55

It's kind of Why didn't you just not shave?

23:07:57

And and why do you need to wear dresses and skirts to?

23:08:00

That's very, very normative gender, too. Why do you just like wear not dresses like maybe you know where?

23:08:05

Checked shirts or trousers and stuff, and I was like, Am I?

23:08:09

I feel like I'm starting to look like a lumberjack or something in your vision, and it's like, No, because you have this idea that gender of any kind can be inherently good or bad why can't it just be what it is and the choice.

23:08:24

Is what makes it different, And so I used to joke with them and say, Well, by that standard I would say that I can wear these things because I'm transgressive, and you can't because it would be normative.

23:08:33

On you. That's a ridiculous argument. So why don't we just say it's always transgressive?

23:08:39

If it's your choice, why not just call it a choice, And that choice always felt powerful to me, like the choice to be able to express felt hopeful, felt powerful not The thing that you actually

choose So if you choose to be socially normative, because that's who You feel you are then you have done it

23:08:58

hopefully in a way that feels good; whereas when you don't choose, and you feel like you can't choose.

23:09:03

That's when it feels rough. I like that. It's when you can't choose that.

23:09:08

It feels rough, and I know that there's always a notion of choice.

23:09:10

But sometimes to choose is to put yourself in danger to your hiddenness or your ability to play with your expression or your gender is constrained.

23:09:22

That is the roughness I just like. Little ping beacons.

23:09:26

Moment, of hope, I'm just gonna stick with it. It instead of my little happy ping Beacon Corner.

23:09:30

How are you on pinging, J. Got on that note with J. Pinging away?

23:09:36

I don't want to draw our line on this. I feel free to carry on having this conversation, but I also appreciate that we shouldn't keep you longer than your energy allows, Kate or anything else We also have to discuss a very serious topic.

23:09:47

As always, Dr. J. We talk about what we might talk about next week.

23:09:52

If you cannot copy your case, perhaps you'd like to be part of that planning process.

23:09:56

Jay and I often discuss what our next topic might be, and invariably, for some reason, it always is Dr.

23:10:01

J how breathtaking is Cana reefs, and I believe Kate's on the same page here.

23:10:08

That cannery disease. In fact, Breathtake: Yeah, absolutely.

23:10:13

Is there any other way to conceive of the expression of Keanu Reeves like I watch John Wick one, because I was recovering from Covid and needed something that didn't engage my brain in any.

23:10:24

Way, shape, or form other than enjoying the beauty and the breathtakingness of Keanu Reeves and a bang, bang Hitty! Hitty! Movie But I forgot how devastating the first 20 min are They are worse than up if you are not crying by the time daisy dies you

23:10:40

are a heartless being. You have absolutely no emotions whatsoever.

23:10:46

You should be a sobbing wreck at the heartbreak? Keanu

23:10:50

shows he is just that first 20 min is just a tour de force of acting around, processing grief, and all of that, and then he goes around and just basically slaughters everybody what You're brilliant in the most amazing way, is possible And you also know that he's doing most of his

23:11:04

own stunts, because his faces everywhere. He's doing so much himself.

23:11:09

And I'm like, Wow, he is just yes, birthtaking I think I think that was Brett I don't know what else to say.

23:11:24

Hmm! It will never pass the bitual test. I admit it.

23:11:29

The puppy has more screen time than any of the other 2 women in the movie, but it is such an amazingly done. Movie.

23:11:38

It is so much fun, and Keanu is just completely worth taking throughout.

23:11:42

That he is but unfortunately, one thing he has not done is he's done any kind of marvel, Okay, which I I I don't know what you think what would you be good really good at.

23:11:53

Could he do? DC: Could he be destruction? He's too kind to be destruction, or maybe he is perfectly destruction, because destruction does actually have in the depths of Sam, and that moment, of not wanting to be here, is the brother who walks away he's the endless who walks away from it

23:12:11

because he is sick of it, and maybe that's a kindness.

23:12:15

But Keanu I mean Josephine did seem to me when I was very sad.

23:12:20

The tao of Keanu, which is basically all the kind of things that Keanu has done collected in a book

23:12:30

Well, there you go. You can enjoy that notion. Do this.

23:12:34

There, thank you for joining us again this week. We will be back next time.

23:12:37

In the meantime, if you're interested in following us, you can find us on all the social media's on Twitter.

23:12:43

We are. It is complicated without an e at the end, can find us elsewhere.

23:12:47

I don't know if you'd like to support us.

23:12:51

We use that money to help pay for guests in this particular case Kate has generously suggested that we will be donating the the money that we want to indicate to some worthy cause.

23:13:00

Oh, I can tell you the worthy cause, if that makes sense.

23:13:03

I was going to suggest the outside project who work with Lgbtq.

23:13:08

Homeless people, especially refugees and migrants, who are finding themselves more and more pressured in the current situations in the UK.

23:13:16

That sounds ideal. Thank you. Well, then, do you listen? That's where the money that you will have shared with this again generously.

23:13:24

This month will go if you feel like joining us, Come to our Patreon, and if you don't feel like you can do that.

23:13:29

That's no problem at all. We will just be here and queer once again next time I'm completely, freely available at all.

23:13:36

What is that phrase that you keep saying today? We're all good podcasts or so.

23:13:40

Yes, yes, because there's now so many different platforms that podcast, can go out on.

23:13:45

And it sounds so much better than wherever you found this.

23:13:50

Podcast We will be here and queer in whatever place you find podcasts again next time.

23:13:55

In the meantime, thank you so much for joining us this time, Kate.

23:13:58

It's been absolute pleasure. If you ever feel like doing this again, you are welcome anytime, and I look forward to meeting you again either online or in person, or in some form of other career space that we can create sometimes soon it is always a delight to talk to you and thank you for joining us and a lovely.

23:14:15

conversation with the 2 of you. Thank you, and I would love to do it again sometime anytime at all.

23:14:22

Okay, okay.

23:14:29

the and and

23:14:36

But and then I have I have a ukulele till I keep funky.

23:14:45

I mean, Yeah, clicking donkey. Eucaly. Will happen.

23:14:47

And then that's it.